

REMARKS

Applicants submit that by the present Amendment and Remarks, this Application is placed in clear condition for immediate allowance. Specifically, by the present Amendment rejected claims 1 through 8, 11, 16 and 19 have been cancelled, and claim 18, indicated allowable, has been placed in independent form. All of the remaining claims, i.e., 9, 10, 12 through 15, 17, 18 and 20 through 22 have been allowed. Therefore, the present Amendment does not introduce any new matter, generate any new issue, and clearly places the Application in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, entry of the present Amendment and Remarks, and favorable consideration, are solicited pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

For completeness Applicants will address the rejections imposed in the Office Action dated January 4, 2006.

Claims 1 through 4, 6, 8, 11, 16 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for obviousness predicated upon Hata in view of Motoki et al.

Claims 5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for obviousness predicated upon Hata in view of Motoki et al and Goetz et al.

Each of the above rejections is traversed. Specifically, each of the rejections has been rendered moot by canceling claims 1 through 8, 11, 16 and 19. Accordingly, withdrawal of the imposed rejections is solicited.

Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's allowance of claims 9, 10, 12 through 15, 17 and 20 through 22, and the Examiner's indication that claim 18 contains allowable subject matter. As the only remaining claims are claims 9, 10, 12 through 15, 17, 18


Application No.: 10/663,707

and 20 through 22, Applicants submit that this Application is in clear condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP


Arthur J. Steiner
Registration No. 26,106

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 AJS:bjs:ntb
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: March 9, 2006

**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**